

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY CU/ARTS:GECORIDEN:SM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: AMERICA DAY AT ACCRA TRADE FAIR

REF: A) ACCRA 543, B) ACCRA 384

1. REGRETTABLY AFTER DEPT HAD SECURED CAB APPROVAL FOR FREE AIR TRANSPORTATION, MARVIN GAYE MANAGER, STEVEN HILL, SUDDENLY AND ADAMANTLY ADVISED THAT GAYE WAS NOT AVAILABLE UNLESS SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR PREPARATORY COSTS WERE AVAILABLE. THESE WERE DOLLAR COSTS WHICH HE HAD HOPED TO COVER WITH COMMERCIAL DATES. COMMERCIAL PROGRAM OUTLINED IN REFTEL B. INVOLVED A GREAT DEAL OF WORK WITH MINIMAL RETURN EXCEPT TO LOCAL PROMOTER.

2. AFTER GREAT EFFORT ON PART OF ALL CONCERNED, DEPT HAS SECURED AN ALTERNATE GROUP, MR. BUNNY SIGLER WITH INSTANT FUNK, ONE OF THE GOOD YOUNG SOUL AND ROCK GROUPS FROM THE SOUND OF PHILADELPHIA. THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A NON-COMMERCIAL BASIS WITH LIVING EXPENSES PAID BY JOHNSON'S
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WAX AND FIRESTONE AND SMALL FEE RAISED BY JOHN UPSTON FROM

PRIVATE COMPANIES. DEPT WILL PAY ITS AIR FAIR MONROVIA-ACCRA IN ORDER NOT DISAPPOINT EMBASSY.

3. GROUP WILL ARRIVE ON FEBRUARY 1 VIA GH 547 FROM MONROVIA. IT CONSISTS OF SIGLER, THREE OTHER SINGERS, SIX MUSICIANS AND MANAGER. PLEASE ARRANGE HOTELS (THREE SINGLES, FOUR DOUBLES), MEET AND ASSIST. CONTACT JOHNSON'S WAX AND FIRESTONE TO COVER EXPENSES.

4. GROUP WILL DEPART ACCRA ON FEBRUARY 4 TO RETURN VIA MONROVIA. PROMO MATERIAL POSTED TODAY TO ATTN: CAO FRENCH. SISCO

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